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the conference from the college librarian's point of view. Most of those who express no preference are those who do not expect to attend. From these returns it appears that the college libraries are going to be well represented at the next conference.

A. L. A. COUNCIL

Two sessions of the Council were held during the recent mid-winter library meetings in Chicago, the first on Thursday afternoon, January 4th, and the second on Friday morning, the 5th. The president, Mrs. H. L. Elmendorf, was in the chair. The following 30 members were present: Mrs. H. L. Elmendorf, Henry E. Legler, Mary W. Plummer, W. C. Lane, Alice S. Tyler, Herbert Putnam, P. B. Wright, C. W. Andrews, Linda A. Eastman, H. M. Utley, W. H. Brett, F. P. Hill, C. H. Gould, Cornelia Marvin, Mary Eileen Ahern, W. F. Yust, S. H. Ranck, Edith Tobitt, H. W. Craver, C. B. Roden, L. J. Burpee, A. S. Root, Mary E. Hazeltine, Mary E. Robbins, P. L. Windsor, G. F. Bowerman, W. N. C. Carlton, G. H. Locke, Grace D. Rose, Clara F. Baldwin.

January 4th

The first subject considered was the advisability for the A. L. A. to open negotiations with certain national organizations with a view to greater mutual service through membership or otherwise. It was felt that the officers and members in these various societies are not sufficiently informed of the nature and extent of the work of the public and institutional libraries in this country and Canada, and that they do not properly realize what far-reaching and efficient agencies libraries are for public education along their lines of special interest. The following is a suggested list of organizations to which it might be advantageous for the A. L. A. to belong:

American association for the advancement of science.
American civic association.
American economic association.
American historical association.
American philological association.
American political science association.

American society for the extension of university teaching.

American sociological society.

Bibliographical society of America.

Child conference for research and welfare.

International kindergarten union.

Modern language association of America.

National conference of charities and correction.

National education association.

National geographic society.

National municipal league.

National prison association.

National society for the scientific study of education.

North American civic league for immigrants.

Playground association of America.

It was believed that it might be advantageous both to the A. L. A. and to certain of the proposed organizations for specially appointed delegates from the A. L. A. to attend the conferences of these organizations; take such part in the discussion as might be possible; and report to the A. L. A. on the scope and importance of the meetings from the library point of view. Dr. Putnam pointed out that the nature of the society would largely influence the value that such a delegate could give or receive; that a delegate to some of the organizations suggested would probably serve a good purpose, but that in certain other conferences there would be little opportunity for a delegate to secure or impart much of service to others. Mr. Ranck thought that such a delegate should be either an officer or member of the Executive board. Miss Ahern believed that this was not necessary, and that a suitable delegate could always be found in some librarian geographically near to the place of conference. Dr. Putnam raised the question whether a national association should be entitled to any greater consideration or dignity than a library which should become an institutional member, the general opinion being that all institutional members would be much on the same footing. It was

Voted, that the president be authorized

to ascertain by appointment of a committee or otherwise whether it would be possible and advisable for the A. L. A. to open negotiations with certain national educational and other societies and organizations with a view to mutual service.

Mr. George F. Bowerman, as chairman of a committee, presented a letter from the District of Columbia library association. The letter reminded the association that only once in its 35 years of life had it met in Washington; that the lack of invitation on the part of the librarians of Washington had not been occasioned by any lack of appreciation on their part of the entire appropriateness of Washington as a recurrent meeting place; that it had not been deemed requisite, but to a certain extent preposterous, to invite the national association to meet in the national capital where both the city itself and the libraries (for the most part) are national, rather than local, possessions and interests. The letter called attention to the advantages of Washington as a meeting place and expressed the belief that the Washington conferences would be among the most largely attended of all its meetings. In conclusion the District of Columbia library association, even though for the foregoing reasons it did not deem it appropriate to extend a formal invitation to the American library association to hold any special meeting in Washington, wished to offer assurances that it would be highly gratified should the American library association adopt a policy that would include frequent meetings in Washington.

The suggestion of a fixed location for recurrent meetings at stated periods was received with considerable favor, but no unanimity of opinion was reached regarding the best available place. Some believed that a place with fewer social attractions and greater quiet should be selected for recurrent meetings. It was

Voted, that the secretary express to the District of Columbia library association the hearty thanks of the Council for its communication.

Further action was deferred.

The secretary read a letter from the secretary of the New Jersey library association extending the invitation of the executive committee in charge of the forthcoming Atlantic City meeting to the A. L. A. and all affiliated bodies to hold as many of the A. L. A. mid-winter meetings as possible at Atlantic City, feeling that the time of year and the general popularity of Atlantic City as a resort, as well as the long standing of the conference there, make the suggestion appropriate. Mr. Hill moved that it be considered desirable for the mid-winter meeting of the Council to be held one year in Chicago and the next year in Atlantic City, or some place farther east. On vote being taken the motion was lost.

In the attendant discussion Dr. Andrews called attention to the fact that there was nothing to prevent Council meetings being held in both places each year if desired and that this might prove a very popular course to pursue. He pointed out, however, that it was important for the Executive Board and the Publishing Board to meet at the beginning of the fiscal year, preferably at headquarters, for action on the financial reports and budgets for the coming year. Dr. Andrews and other members of the Council expressed warm appreciation of the invitation from the New Jersey library association.

Dr. Putnam, in behalf of the special committee appointed at the Pasadena conference to formulate conditions of affiliation for all except local, state and provincial associations, reported that some progress had been made but that no specific report could be made at this time.

Dr. Putnam, as chairman of the committee on international relations, also reported progress on the subject of exchange of Canadian and American public documents.

A letter was read from Dr. Bernard C. Steiner, chairman of the committee on federal and state relations, in which he made the following report:

"After consultation among its members, and interviews with some of the congressmen on the Committee on Post Office and Post Roads, your committee has decided to recommend that the movement looking

toward the establishment of a parcels post be supported by our Association, and that no attempt be made to secure a library post. The third choice, the establishment of a special book post, seems impracticable at this time. We have corresponded with representatives of the publishers, and feel that nothing can be done on that line. We therefore recommend the support of the proposed parcels post."

Voted, that the president appoint a committee of three to draft a resolution relative to the establishment of a parcels post and report to the Council at its next session (on the following day), which resolution should then be referred to the committee on federal and state relations. The president appointed on this committee C. W. Andrews, W. C. Lane and Cornelia Marvin.

Voted, that a committee from the Council be appointed by the president to consider the government of American libraries and their relation to the municipal authorities, and to report its action to the Council at the earliest possible date. The president appointed on this committee Arthur E. Bostwick, with power to complete the committee.

Miss Marvin spoke of plans for library buildings, expressing a hearty desire for co-operation between the new Carnegie Corporation and the A. L. A.

Voted, that a committee be appointed by the president to consider the question of library architecture and of co-operation between the A. L. A. and the Carnegie Corporation, and to report to the Council at its next meeting. The president appointed on this committee, Cornelia Marvin, W. H. Brett and H. C. Wellman. Council adjourned.

January 5th

At the second meeting of the Council, held Friday morning, January 5th, the first subject for discussion was educational unity in cities. Mr. W. L. Brown had prepared a paper* on this subject, which, in his absence, was read by the secretary. It was

*See p. 1.

Voted, that the library periodicals be requested to print Mr. Brown's paper and other statements supplementing it, and that the secretary bring it to the attention of the press and give it as much other desirable publicity as possible.

Dr. Andrews felt it important to learn what other cities were doing along this line, and explained briefly the work of the Council for library and museum extension in Chicago, illustrating with several of their publications. The president called attention to similar work done in Buffalo. Mr. Lane spoke of the work done in Boston. Miss Ahern reminded the Council that the initial step in this work in Chicago was taken by the Chicago library club. Mr. Ranck felt that there was a tendency to create new boards and institutions to undertake new activities, when these could be handled equally well by existing organizations.

The following report was presented by the

Committee on Relation of the A. L. A. and State Library Associations

The committee on the relation of the A. L. A. and state library associations is able to report gratifying progress, and that the communication sent to meetings of the various state associations this fall and winter have been most favorably considered. The specific questions were:

How may a state library association be formally or officially connected with the A. L. A. on a basis which will be advantageous to both organizations?

1. By the payment of a per capita assessment into the treasury of the A. L. A. on a basis of probably 10 cents per capita?

2. Should this entitle the state association to name a representative from the state as a member of the A. L. A. Council?

3. Should there not be a minimum requirement as to the number of members in a state association before it would be eligible for connection with the A. L. A. upon the basis suggested? (i. e. a state association should have at least 25 members before it would be eligible for state representation in the Council).

4. In the larger state associations might it not be advisable to allow more than one representative on the Council, e. g. one representative for every 100 state members, or fraction thereof?

5. Should the individual members of the

state association be considered associate members of the A. L. A. under this arrangement? (without receiving the publications of the A. L. A., the cost of which is considerable).

6. Should those already members of state associations who desire to join the A. L. A. individually be given some concession, such as the waiving of the initiation fee in the A. L. A.?

7. Is there a probability of strengthening your state library association by this official recognition and by the reports that would come back to the state meetings from the state representatives to the Council?

The committee feels that the preliminary investigations have been sufficiently thorough to assure them of a general desire that there shall be such changes made in the Constitution of the A. L. A. as will make possible a formal federation of the state associations with the A. L. A.

The committee requests that the secretary of the A. L. A. obtain from each state, district and provincial association a list of its members, or in some way, ascertain how many A. L. A. members are now members of each of these associations. Until this data is available no conclusions can be safely drawn as to the effect such affiliation might have on the A. L. A. membership.

The following recommendations are made to the Council for consideration regarding certain amendments to the Constitution:

1. That provision be made for state, district and provincial membership in the Council by amending Section 14 of the Constitution, substituting for the clause "twenty-five elected by the Council itself" the following: "one member from each state and provincial library association which complies with the conditions for state and provincial representation set forth by the Bylaws."

2. That Section 3 of the Bylaws be amended by striking out the entire section and substituting the following therefor:

"Each state and provincial library association having a membership of not less than ——— members may be represented in the Council by the president of such association, or by an alternate elected at the annual meeting of the association. The annual dues shall be \$5.00 for each association having a membership of 50 or less and 10 cents per capita additional where membership is above that number."

All members of the associations so affiliating shall be considered associate members of the A. L. A. without receiving publications, and should such members desire

to become individual members of the A. L. A. the payment of an initiation fee will be waived.

Alice S. Tyler, Chairman.
Samuel H. Ranck.

The third member of the committee, Mr. Frank P. Hill, dissented from the recommendations, but agreed with the report which precedes the recommendations.

The report and the general subject of affiliation were discussed by the three members of the committee and by several other members of the Council, the following points being raised:

Would a fee of 10 cents per capita paid to the American library association by state associations having more than 50 members be interpreted as a penalty for increasing the state membership, or would it be wiser to have a uniform fee of \$5.00 for all state associations which affiliate, regardless of size of membership?

Are the American library association members who join one year and lapse the next influenced solely by the proximity of the conference for that year, or are there other elements, which affiliation might assist in overcoming?

Would the lack of continuity of service by Council members who were elected by affiliating associations tend to disarrange continued policies of the Council, or would a larger number of new members coming and old members leaving help to spread more rapidly the work of the American library association?

If there were more than one state library organization in a state would each organization be entitled to elect a member to the Council, or should the state as a whole only be entitled to one representative? The latter plan seemed to be the more favorably received.

Should twenty-five members of Council continue to be elected by the Council itself, or should state representation be substituted therefor, as recommended by a majority of the committee?

Should a greater or less concession be given to members of state associations when joining the American library association than a waiving of initiation fee?

Would accepting members of state associations as associate members of the American library association and giving associate members travel and hotel privileges at the conference tend to discourage active membership in the American library association?

After discussion it was

Voted, that the report be received and be referred back to the committee; that it be printed in the American library association Bulletin, together with an abstract of the attendant discussion; and that that portion of the report be adopted which requests the secretary of the American library association to obtain from each state and provincial association a list of its members so as to ascertain how many are members of the American library association.

A report of progress was made for the committee on international printed cards by the chairman, W. C. Lane. The plan for printing cards at the Royal Library at Berlin was briefly outlined and librarians were recommended to avail themselves of these cards as far as possible. It was suggested that American libraries might place orders for these Berlin cards with the headquarters office of the A. L. A., and that the cards when received be distributed from headquarters. In many cases libraries can probably arrange for ordering of cards through their foreign book agents. The chairman read a letter from Dr. Aksel Andersson, librarian of the University of Upsala, giving a report of progress in Sweden.

A letter from George S. Godard, chairman of the committee on public documents, was read by Mr. Ranck, member of the committee, in which Miss Hasse suggested the publication of a bibliography or check-list of Canadian documents, made on the same plan as the Wisconsin check-list published in 1903 by the Wisconsin free library commission.

On motion of Dr. Andrews it was

Voted, that this recommendation be referred to the Publishing Board.

The committee to secure information rel-

ative to a scientific and satisfactory standard for lighting and ventilation of library buildings made the following report through the chairman, Samuel H. Ranck.

To the Council of the American library association:

Your special committee on the ventilation and lighting of library buildings can report at this time nothing more than progress in its work. The subjects it is dealing with are large ones and in many respects most difficult. It would seem, however, that there is urgent need for the bringing together in convenient form for the use of all interested in libraries the best scientific thought, the most exact data, and the accumulated experience of librarians and others on these two subjects that mean so much to library workers and library users. As an evidence of this need it may be mentioned that the committee has already received requests for information and opinions on these subjects from librarians, from library trustees, and from architects.

Your committee has held one meeting, has had a very large correspondence, and is getting, or expects to get, more or less co-operation from about a dozen other organizations or institutions that are interested in or are studying one or both of these subjects.

The work of the committee thus far has been chiefly devoted to making a schedule of the questions our report should answer and the subjects it should discuss. A reading of this schedule will convince anyone that the work of the committee is exceedingly complicated and that much time will be required to complete it.

It is the purpose of the committee to answer these problems, so far as possible, first, by the use of abstracts from books and writers of recognized authority and standing; second, to check up these answers by the experience of librarians from a series of libraries; and thirdly, and finally, on all doubtful points or on points not previously considered in discussions of this subject, to have made a number of experiments and scientific tests especially for this report.

Respectfully submitted,

Samuel H. Ranck,

Chairman.

The committee appointed at the preceding session to draft a resolution regarding the attitude of the association to a parcels post presented the following, which was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the Council of the American library association respectfully

express to Congress their belief that the library interests of the country demand greater and less expensive facilities for the transportation of books, so that libraries may be able to extend their benefits to persons living away from the centers of population, and so that the small libraries may more freely borrow from the larger.

While a special library post would appear to them a most desirable measure, they believe that the proposed parcels post would materially improve the present conditions, and therefore they respectfully urge its establishment.

Mr. Wright desired the Council to appoint a committee to define the term "circulation of books" as used by libraries. On motion it was voted that this matter be referred to the committee on library administration.

On motion by Miss Robbins the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the Council of the A. L. A. express to the directors of the Chicago public library, to the directors of the Art Institute, and to the members of the Chicago library club its appreciation and thanks for the hospitality and thoughtful courtesy extended to it during this meeting.

Council adjourned.

COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY LIBRARIANS OF THE MIDDLE WEST

The third annual meeting of the college and university librarians of the middle west was held in the Chicago public library, Friday afternoon and Saturday forenoon, January 5 and 6, 1912. The attendance, sixty at the first session and forty at the second, was larger than heretofore, partly because more institutions were represented and partly because of the presence of a larger number of other librarians who were in Chicago to attend the meetings of the week. Nineteen college and university libraries of this section of the country were represented by from one to six members of their respective staffs; and representatives from eastern libraries, Harvard, Columbia, Simmons, and Syracuse, from one southern library, the University of Georgia, from one

Canadian library, McGill University, and from the John Crerar library and the Library of Congress were all welcome visitors and participants in the discussions.

Dr. Walter Lichtenstein, who has recently returned from a six months expedition to European book centers in the interest of several American libraries, told his plan of work and some of his experiences in filling book orders entrusted to him. Mr. Lane, Dr. Andrews, and Mr. Hanson gave very favorable reports concerning his work for Harvard, Chicago University, and the John Crerar libraries. Mr. Newman Miller, of the University of Chicago Press, presented a statement concerning the work of the coöperative forwarding agent from European book centers. Weekly shipment of books has proven a very satisfactory, though a somewhat expensive, arrangement, and the suggestion was made that perhaps a bi-weekly shipment would reduce the cost and provide sufficiently frequent shipments to satisfy most needs. Mr. G. W. Sheldon, whose firm has acted as the shipping agent, was present and took part in the general discussion. Professor A. S. Root presented a statement of "some perplexities in the use of printed catalog cards," in which he called attention to some shortcomings of this service which everyone recognizes and which can hardly be remedied, and to other shortcomings or inconsistencies which might, perhaps, be eliminated. Dr. Andrews of the A. L. A. publishing board, Dr. Putnam of the Library of Congress, Mr. Hanson, of the University of Chicago, and others participated in the very active discussion which followed. Mr. H. O. Severance gave a description of a charging system which has recently been inaugurated at the University of Missouri library.

At the second session Mr. P. L. Windsor presented statistics tending to show the extent of the dependence of western libraries on the large eastern libraries in the matter of inter-library loans. The bulk of loans to institutions of the middle west appeared to come from Harvard, Library